REMARKS

Claim 4 is amended, and claim 5 is added. Claims 1-5 are pending. This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate multiple claim dependency. Examination on the merits of the application is requested. In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should no remittance be attached, or should any greater or lesser fee be required, please charge or credit our Account No. 22-0261 and advise us accordingly.

Dated: April 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 41,289

Docket No.: 68970-229790

VENABLE LLP P.O. Box 34385

Washington, DC 20043-9998

(202) 344-4000

(202) 344-8300 (Fax)

Attorney For Applicant

#746643